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TAGS: GATT, ETRD, ROM

SUBJECT: GATT REVIEW OF ROMANIAN TARIFF SYSTEM

REF: GENEVA 03547

FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO GATT SECRETARIAT

FOCUS ON THREE PRINCIPAL POINTS OF INTEREST: HOW IMPOSI-

TION OF TARIFF SYSTEM AFFECTS IMPORTS, HOW IT APPLIES TO

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IMPORTS FROM CEMA COUNTRIES, AND WHAT COMPENSATION CPS

WILL BE OFFERED IF IMPORT COMMITMENT REMOVED.

A. WITH FOREIGN TRADE IN PRODUCTS CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT BY THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED IN DETAIL BY SUBPLANS ACCOMPANYING THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC PLAN, WHAT SCOPE IS THERE FOR CUSTOMS DUTIES TO EXERT INFLUENCE ON LEVELS OF IMPORTS OF SUCH PRODUCTS?

B. WHAT OTHER MEASURES, E.G. DIRECT ORDERS TO IMPORTING FOREIGN TRADE UNITS FROM CENTRAL AUTHORITIES, INTEREST RATES FOR HARD-CURRENCY LOANS TO IMPORTING FOREIGN TRADE UNITS THAT VARY ACCORDING TO THE PRIORITY ASSIGNED TO THE IMPORT, ARE USED TO ENSURE THAT IMPORTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH PLANNING PRIORITIES, AND HOW DO THESE DEVICES INTERACT WITH CUSTOMS DUTIES IN AFFECTING IMPORTS OF PARTICULAR COMMODITIES?

C. WOULD CUSTOMS DUTIES BE LIKELY TO HAVE A GREATER IMPACT ON IMPORTS ASSIGNED A LOWER PRIORITY IN ECONOMIC PLANS, WHOSE IMPORTATION IS SUBJECT TO DECISION BY THE INDUSTRIAL CENTRALS AND FTO'S THAT MUST PAY THE DUTIES?

D. IS IT PLANNED THAT CLASSIFICATION OF SOME PRODUCTS IN THE DEFINITIVE TARIFF WILL BE ON THE BASIS OF END-USE? IF SO, COULD THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT PROVIDE A DETAILED DEFINITION OF THE TERM QTE FOR PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES UNQTE NOW USED IN THEIR TARIFF?

E. UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS WILL CUSTOMS DUTIES BE REMITTED? FOR EXAMPLE, FOR IMPORTS UNDER ECONOMIC COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS?

F. WILL THE COEFFICIENT OF 20 LEI EQUALS ONE DOLLAR US BE APPLIED WITHOUT EXCEPTION IN DETERMINING THE CUSTOMS VALUE OF IMPORTED GOODS?

G. WILL THE TARIFF SYSTEM APPLY TO IMPORTS FROM CEMA COUNTRIES IN THE SAME MANNER AS TO IMPORTS FROM CONTRACTING PARTIES? IF THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS FOR IMPORTS FROM CEMA COUNTRIES, WHICH PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREEMENT PERMIT THEM?

H. IF THE TARIFF SYSTEM IS APPLIED TO CEMA TRADE, WHAT PROPORTIONS OF THE IMPORTS FROM CEMA AND FROM NON-CEMA COUNTRIES ENTER DUTY-FREE BECAUSE NO DUTY IS ASSESSED AGAINST THE ITEMS UNDER THE TARIFF SCHEDULE? WHAT PROPORTIONS OF THE IMPORTS FROM CEMA AND FROM NON-CEMA COUNTRIES ENTER DUTY-FREE BECAUSE THE DUTY IS SUSPENDED?

WHAT ARE THE AVERAGE RATES OF DUTY ACTUALLY APPLIED TO IMPORTS FROM CEMA AND FROM NON-CEMA COUNTRIES?

I. IF THE IMPORT COMMITMENT IS ELIMINATED, WHAT ASSURANCES CAN THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA OFFER THAT ITS TREATMENT OF IMPORTS FROM THE CONTRACTING PARTIES WILL NOT BECOME MORE RESTRICTIVE?

J. WILL THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA CONSULT WITH THE CONTRACTING PARTIES ON SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF PROTECTION ON PARTICULAR PRODUCTS BEFORE OEFINITIVE APPLICATION OF THE TARIFF AFTER 1 JANUARY 1975?

K. DOES THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA INTEND TO PROVIDE THE CONTRACTING PARTIES WITH DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF IMPORTS DURING 1974 IN ORDER THAT THE OTHER GATT MEMBERS CAN ASSESS THE TRADE VALUE OF REDUCTIONS AND BINDINGS OF DUTIES OFFERED AS REPLACEMENT

FOR EXISTING COMMITMENT IN THEIR GATT SCHEDULE? FOR EXAMPLE, WILL COMPARABLE DATA ON CONSUMER GOODS IMPORTS ENTERING UNDER EITHER GOODS-EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS OR UNDER THE NORMAL DUTY RATE THAT IS APPLICABLE BE MADE AVAILABLE?

L. IF THE IMPORT COMMITMENT IS REPLACED BY REDUCTIONS IN THE NEW CUSTOMS DUTIES AND AGREED BINDINGS DOES THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA ANTICIPATE THAT ITS IMPORTS FROM THE CONTRACTING PARTIES WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE AT THE SAME RATE AS IN THE PAST? SISCO

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